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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/163,977 09/30/98 PARK

J Q51897

LM02/0317

EXAMINER

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TRAN, T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2714

8

DATE MAILED:

03/17/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/163,977

Applicant

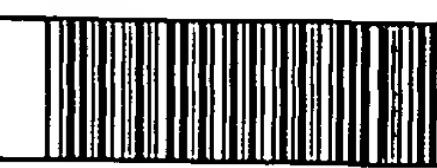
Yu-Ha PARK

Examiner

Trang U.Tran

Group Art Unit

2714

 Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 18, 1999 This action is FINAL. Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1835 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

- Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- The drawing(s) filed on Sep 30, 1998 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- The proposed drawing correction, filed on Mar 18, 1999 is approved disapproved.
- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *Certified copies not received: _____
- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

-- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES --

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).
3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: # 470 and # 480 in Fig. 4B and 4C. Correction is required.
4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: The reference sign 450 of Fig. 4A is not mentioned in the specification. The reference sign 432 in page 7 in the specification should be changed to 450. Correction is required.
5. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect can be deferred until the application is allowed by the examiner.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-15, 19-23 and 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yuen (US. Patent 5,659,367).

In consider claim 1, the claimed comprising acquiring program guide information for each channel by scanning accessible channels while a received program is not displayed is met by the controller 750 (col. 21, lines 34-47 and 59-65).

In consider claim 2, the claimed the acquiring of the program guide information for each channel comprises obtaining the program guide information of the accessible channels by a tuner while the program received by the tuner is not displayed is met by the controller 750 (col. 21, lines 34-47 and 59-65).

In consider claim 3, Yuen discloses all claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed acquiring program guide information of accessible channels is met by the controller 750 (col. 21, lines 34-47 and 59-65), 2) the claimed storing the acquired program guide information is met by the RAM 752 (col. 21, line 65; col. 22, line 1), 3) the claimed writing a program list on the basis of the stored program guide information is met by the RAM 752 (col. 21, line 65; col. 22, line 1)

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and col. 12, lines 33-46), 4) the claimed displaying the written program list to the user is met by the television 14 (col. 22, lines 1-3).

In consider claim 5, the claimed further comprising the step of determining whether the program guide information is effective by comparing a current time to an effective period of stored program guide information and proceeding to the program list writing step when the stored program is effective, before the step of acquiring program guide information is met by the comparing step (col. 21, lines 39-47).

In consider claim 6, Yuen discloses all claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed writing and displaying a program list including the program guide information of channels tuned before a program guide command is executed from the stored program guide information is met by the display of the television guide (col. 21, line 65 ; col. 22, line 5), 2) the claimed acquiring the program guide information for each channel by searching for the accessible channels in a background operation while the program list is referred to is met by the search for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 7, the claimed the acquiring step comprises the step of determining the sequence of accessing channels by proximity of channels to the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 8, the claimed the acquiring step comprises the step of determining the order of priority of channels having the same proximity to the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed according to a channel up/down command input before

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corresponding channels are accessed is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 9, the claimed wherein an upward or downward direction is preferential when no channel up/down command is executed is met by the scanning of the channels for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 10, the claimed the acquiring step comprises the step of searching channels upward or downward from the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed is met by the scanning of the channels for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 12, Yuen discloses all claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed writing and displaying a program list including program guide information of channels tuned before a program guide command is executed from stored program guide information is met by the display of the television guide (col. 21, line 65 ; col. 22, line 5), 2) the claimed acquiring program guide information for each channel by searching for accessible channels in a background operation while the program list is referred to is met by the search for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65), 3) the claimed storing the acquired program guide information for each channel is met by the storing the channel guide in the RAM 752 (col. 21, line 65 ; col. 22, line 1), 4) the claimed rewriting a program list on the basis of the stored program guide information is met by the storing the channel guide in the RAM 752 (col. 21, line 65 ; col. 22, line 1 and col. 12, lines 33-46), 5) the claimed displaying the rewritten program list to a user is met by the display of the television guide (col. 22, lines 1-3).

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In consider claim 13, the claimed the guide information acquiring step comprises the step of determining a sequence of accessing channels by the proximity of channels to the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 14, the claimed wherein the acquiring step determines an order of priority of channels having the same proximity to the channel tuned according to a channel up/down command input before corresponding channels are accessed is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 15, the claimed wherein an upward or downward direction is preferential when no channel up/down command is applied is met by the scanning of the channels for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 19, Yuen discloses all claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed a tuner tuning a channel is met by the tuner 744 (col. 19, line 19), 2) the claimed a program guide information detector coupled to the tuner detecting program guide information introduced via the tuner is met by the controller 750 (col. 19, lines 24-44 and col. 21, lines 34-47), 3) the claimed a memory coupled to the program guide information detector storing the program guide information for each channel detected by the program guide information detector is met by the RAM 752 (from col. 21, line 65 to col. 22, line 1), 4) the claimed a key input introducing a user manipulation command such as a program guide command or a channel search command is met by the remote controller 16 (col. 19, line 10-17), 5) the claimed a microprocessor coupled to the

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key input unit, to the tuner and to the memory and writing a program list based on program guide information stored in the memory in response to the manipulation command input via the key input and searching for accessible channels by controlling tuner in a background operation while a user refers to the program list is met by the controller 750 (col. 21, line 34 ; col. 22, line 10), 6) the claimed a character signal generator coupled to the microprocessor generating a character signal corresponding to the program list written by the microprocessor and providing the character signal to a screen is met by the on-screen display controller 756 (col. 22, lines 1-3).

In consider claim 20, the claimed wherein the microprocessor determines the sequence of accessing channels by the proximity between channels to the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 21, the claimed wherein the microprocessor determines the order of priority of channels having the same proximity according to a user's channel up/down command input via the key input before corresponding channels are accessed is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 22, the claimed wherein the microprocessor searches for channels preferentially in an upward or downward direction when no channel up/down command is executed is met by the scanning of the channels for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 23, the claimed wherein the microprocessor searches for channels upward or downward from the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed is met by the scanning of the channels for the television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

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In consider claim 25, the claimed wherein the microprocessor provides to the character signal generator a status message on the message screen in response to the program guide information of a corresponding channel not being stored is met by the warning message (col. 20, lines 50-54).

In consider claim 26, the claimed wherein the accessible channels include channels accessed by a tuner and channels provided by a line input is met by the tuner and the output 728 (col. 19, lines 10-23 and col 21, lines 34-65).

In consider claim 27, the claimed wherein the acquiring step comprises the step of determining the sequence of accessing channels by proximity of the channels to the channel tuned and by a channel up/down command input just before a channel search is determined is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 28, the claimed means for detecting program guide information corresponding to channels in relation to a tuned channel is met by the search for television guide (col. 21, lines 59-65) and means for searching for accessible channels of the channels based upon a command received, the program guide information, and a relation to the tuned channel is met by the controller 750 (col. 21, lines 59-65).

In consider claim 29, the claimed wherein the means for searching searches the accessible channels in a preferential manner is met by the controller 750 (col. 21, lines 59-65).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuen (US. Patent 5,659,367).

Yuen discloses all features of the instant invention except providing a message indicating that the user must wait until the program is written. However, the capability of displaying message indicated the user must wait until the program is written is well known and old in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide Yuen's system with the well known message in order to increase the efficiency system operation in Yuen.

10. Claims 11, 16-18, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuen (US. Patent 5,659,367) in view of Saitoh (US. Patent 5,444,499).

In consider claim 11, Yuen discloses all the features of the instant invention except for providing the step of writing a probability distribution of tuned channels, wherein the channels are searched for in an order of priority according to a probability distribution of channels in the acquiring step. Saitoh teaches that the controller can calculates a probability that channels are to

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be selected, by accumulating a number of time which the channels are tuned (col. 5, lines 46-62) and searches for the channels in an order of priority according to a probability of tuning by the channels calculated (col. 6, lines 15-38). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide Yuen's system with the controller as taught in Saitoh in order to obtain the television guide without carrying out cumbersome tuning operations.

In consider claim 16, the claimed wherein the guide information acquiring step comprises the step of searching channels upward or downward from the channel tuned before the program guide command is executed is met by the search for television guide disclosed in Yuen, column 21, lines 59-65 .

- In consider claim 17, the claimed further comprising the step of writing a probability distribution of tuned channels, wherein the channels are search for in order of priority according to the probability distribution of channels in the search step is met by the search of channels base on the priority disclosed in Saitoh, column 6, lines 15-38 .

In consider claim 18, the claimed wherein the display step comprises the steps of displaying a message indicating a status of program guide information in response to the program guide information of a corresponding channel not being stored is met by the warning message of Yuen (col. 20, lines 50-54) , and displaying the program guide information of a corresponding channel in response to acquiring the program guide information of channels tuned before the program guide command is executed being acquired in the acquiring step is met by the display of the television guide disclosed in Yuen, column 22, lines 1-3.

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Claim 24 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 11.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lemmons et al. (US. Patent 5,880,768) disclose interactive program guide systems and processes.

Ozkan et al. (US. Patent 6,031,577) disclose system for forming and processing program specific information containing text data for terrestrial, cable or satellite broadcast.

Coleman et al. (US. Patent 5,844,620) disclose method and apparatus for displaying an interactive television program guide.

Legrand (US. Patent 6,020,930) discloses method and apparatus for generating and displaying a broadcast system program guide.

Ozkan et al. (US. Patent 6,946,052) disclose system for acquiring and processing video data and program guides transmitted in different coding formats.

Matthews, III et al. (US. Patent 6,025,837) disclose electronic program guide with hyperlinks to target resources.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trang Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-0090. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John K. Peng, can be reached on (703)305-4702.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

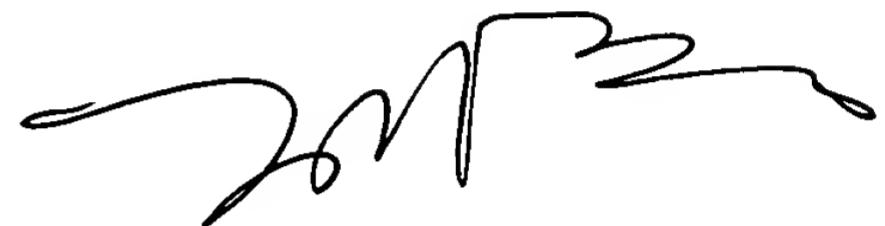
(703) 308-6306, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-6296 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).



JOHN K. PENG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700

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March 11, 2000